

Personal News, Facts, Fancies and Brief Happenings Abroad as Told by the Cables

PEOPLE OF BALKANS
ARE TIRED OF WARS

Indifferent to Changes, Ask
to Be Let Alone and Dig
In at Home.

OLD AND NEW MEET

Fast Expresses Cross Fields
Tilled by Rough Wooden
Plows.

SALONIKI REFUGEE CITY

Greek Frontiersmen Careless
as to What Goes On
In Athens.

Special Correspondence to THE NEW YORK HERALD.

Thessalonika, en route Athens, Dec. 6.—A golf course laid out in a Mexican village would be regarded or disregarded by the natives with much the same indifference that the peoples of the Balkans show toward the railroads which cross their countries. Only the station master and a hungry-looking restaurant keeper are at the depots to receive trains. At some stops a shepherd in a long goat's hair cape holds back his flock until the train passes. But his eye is on his sheep and supremely indifferent to the train.

These are the Balkans. During last summer stations have been rebuilt and bridges repaired. Transcontinental sleeping cars now run regularly between Paris and Constantinople and between Paris and Athens. A night and a day from Belgrade or Trieste suffices to reach most points of western Europe, but the stretch from Trieste to Athens takes three nights and three days by the fastest train. The local service stretches anywhere from four days to six.

Were it not for diplomats who must get back and forth to conferences, for a few concession holders who come out to the Balkans to look at their property, and in the summer for rich Constantinople families who flee to the north from the heat, fast trains would not run in the Balkans and few slow ones.

The native Bulgarians, Croats, Serbs, Macedonians and Greeks are tired of the kind of journeys they have been making during the wars of the last decade and ask only to be let alone, and to be allowed to dig themselves in at home. The contrast between the Oriental Express and the native population is most conspicuous in Macedonia. The Turks and Serbs, like the Bulgarians and Croats further north, have put aside their uniforms and gone back to their traditional capes and bright colored vests and breeches.

The natives prefer their "opanka"—rough, basketlike sandals held on by hide and thong—to shoes. At Uskub they did not seem to notice the patent leather, high heeled pumps of a young French girl who tripped over the mud which they splashed through. The driver of an ex team wagon, who down with the rough wood yoke of 2,000 years ago was entirely oblivious to the American army Cadillac acquired by a Serbian officer standing alongside.

Communities Self-Supporting.

Balkan communities are becoming self-sufficient again. Farmers' wives weave their own cloth at home. The half wild black swine, characteristic of old Serbia, supply meat and hides. The old wooden shacks are moving in and the peasant has no money and no taste for newfangled inventions.

Local trains in Serbia, in contrast with the through express, showed a striking difference, although most of the cars on the local are modern. These local trains are much like those in Soviet Russia, cold and unlighted. They stand for hours on the sidings until a locomotive is uncoupled to take them on to the next station. Travelers roll themselves up in their blankets and wait patiently. The height of luxury in a compartment is a candle.

Although the Serbian army is not officially mobilized there must be a good part of it under arms. The railroad stations give the appearance of a country at war. Troops are moving in and out, and many passengers are in uniform but in civilian clothing. A Serb shrugged his shoulders in answer to my question and replied:

"I know where the danger is? The Fascists are running Italy, the Turks are back in Europe and then there is the Greek revolution and Saloniki, a port not entirely settled to our satisfaction."

Greeks in Uniform.

Our train, however, kept approximately to schedule until we entered Greece. Saloniki has become a city of refugees and tired soldiers. For weeks they clambered aboard the trains, climbing on top when they could not get inside. The first jam is over, but there are crowds of refugees sleeping in the railroad stations, waiting to be distributed among outlying villages.

If the Serbian army gives the impression of soldiers who have not taken off their uniforms, the Greek soldiers we encountered in the railroad stations for the most part seem to be still wearing theirs because they have nothing else to put on and no particular place to go. They stand in groups looking weary after the train or sit on the ground along the sunny wall of the station, convinced of the futility of effort.

The difference in language alone is enough to provoke conflicts between Balkan peoples. When a Serb says "Nai" he means no, but in Greek the same word means yes. When an Albanian nods his head he means no and when he shakes it he means yes. The first question we asked on crossing the frontier into Greece was about the Greek revolution. "We are a long way from Athens and do not know the latest news," a Greek business man explained. "What does it matter who is in office? Things will remain much as they are."

Boy Fights Giant Hawk
Which Attacks Sister

Special Cable to THE NEW YORK HERALD.
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New York Herald Bureau, Berlin, Dec. 30.
HANS KLINGERMAN, a boy of 7, son of a forester near Cuxhaven, battled for half an hour with a giant hawk which attacked his eight-year-old sister in a lonely part of the woods. The children were on their way to school early in the morning, before it was quite light, when the bird swooped down and seized the girl.

The boy fought the hawk with a club, and in spite of serious injuries sustained it when his father, attracted by the children's screams, arrived and killed it.

BRITISH LIVING COST
CUT TO LABOR ONLY

Special Cable to THE NEW YORK HERALD.
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New York Herald Bureau, London, Dec. 30.

Although the Ministry of Labor Index figure shows a slight fall in the cost of living, with the rising exchange value of sterling, it is not reflected in the living costs of those above the daily wage level. Rentals in respectable though not fashionable residential districts still remain at the war level, especially furnished houses and flats. Restaurant prices have not dropped and restaurants and hotel men say there is no prospect of their dropping, because of wages remaining high.

Extraordinary expenses like doctors', dentists' and nursing fees still are soaring. A man in anything but affluent circumstances displayed yesterday a dentist's bill of £167. He had had his teeth cleaned and six of them filled. He had decided to send the dentist a check for £10 and await results.

Skilled nursing still remains one of the most difficult things for a middle class family to find in London. Hospitals are almost exclusively for charity patients in large wards, and for private wards, private nurses and a favor in illness any Londoner above charity must go to a private nursing home. These are run by ex-hospital nurses in thick colonies about Harley street.

There are merely big residences convenient to the homes of eminent surgeons. Few have anything like modern equipment, yet ten guineas a week is the usual minimum charge for a tiny room, perhaps up one or two flights of stairs and away from any sanitary arrangements. Although the nurses in these homes usually are skilled and devoted, the dietary is anything but good. The smallness of the units makes it impractical to employ professional chefs or trained dietitians. One man just out of one of these homes, whether he was sent by a doctor for rest and recuperation after a nervous strain, was charged 20 pounds for six days, and he said, his last night's dinner consisted of cold soup and a small piece of sole. He decided to recuperate in a West End restaurant.

The prices shown in West End announcements for New Year's Eve parties reveal more inflation. One hotel advertises a special dinner at three guineas the cover, without wine. None may be had for less than half a guinea, and most menus cost two guineas. This includes late dancing and a shilling's worth of champagne.

A group of Italian immigrants are moving in Londoners seem to have plenty of money for this sort of thing, and most places, like the Savoy, the Berkeley, Claridge's, the Carlton and the Ritz, are well booked.

GENOA PLANS AIR ROUTE
FROM ITALY TO EGYPT

Special Cable to THE NEW YORK HERALD.
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New York Herald Bureau, Rome, Dec. 30.

Two new projects for the development of Italian commercial aviation were revealed this week. The first calls for the establishment of an important air port at Genoa and the second for an aerial route from Rome to Alexandria, Egypt.

A municipal commission in Genoa has presented plans for an airport, which would be divided between the Government and the Genoa Chamber of Commerce. The plans recommend a floating concrete landing stage in the maritime port and another landing field inland 500 meters in diameter. It is proposed that hangars be furnished by the Government with material from Germany's reparations account.

A group of Italian capitalists purpose to institute an aerial line for mail and passengers to Egypt, via Brindisi and Athens, allowing seventeen hours for the journey.

PARISIANS REJECT
BONUSES IN RUBLES

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New York Herald Bureau, Paris, Dec. 30.

Even in France, where the depreciation of the franc has caused difficulties, the ruble and the mark have lost all value. Notwithstanding offers posted in bank windows announcing that 1,000,000 rubles or 100,000 marks may be bought for a song there are few transactions.

Since Christmas vendors at little stands erected along the boulevards, where the public is offered cheap jewelry, not too fragrant perfumes and soups and candy, large quantities of rubles and marks are given as a Yuletide bonus to buyers, or one's purchase will be wrapped up in a 1,000,000 ruble note. The French, however, remain cold to such attentions and the bundles of rubles on display usually fail to attract attention.

TEMPTING BARGAINS IN
BUNDLES OF MARKS ALSO UNTAKEN.

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FEW BIG FORTUNES
FOUND IN FRANCE

Only Half Million People Have
Declared Incomes Exceed-
ing \$1,500,000 or More.

TAXATION UNPRODUCTIVE

Post-War Talk of Immense
Wealth Gained by Few
Is Disproved.

Special Cable to THE NEW YORK HERALD.
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New York Herald Bureau, Paris, Dec. 30.

According to the tax collector's figures France is not a country where large personal fortunes exist. In the last year out of a total population of 30,000,000 only a little more than 500,000 declared their income to be more than 20,000 francs (\$1,500) a year. Private fortunes in France are so distributed over the country that while in the aggregate they make a big total they prove that there are few very rich people.

At least, this is one of the reasons given to Parliament by the Minister of Finance to show that the taxation of incomes in France is not as productive as in England and America. The returns of 500,000 taxpayers show that their incomes do not reach even 10,000 francs (\$750) annually. In the whole country there are only 130,000 taxpayers who say their income is anywhere from 30,000 to 1,000,000 francs. These, it is estimated, have an average income of 60,000 francs (\$4,500). Only 12,000 can boast of incomes ranging from 100,000 to 200,000 francs. There are only 197 who enjoy an income of more than 1,000,000 francs (\$75,000) while 441 claim to have an income of more than 500,000 francs (\$37,500).

These figures seem to disprove the post-war talk of the immense fortunes made by men dealing in army supplies. The returns show that the majority of those who during the war supplied guns, ammunition, automobiles, airplanes or food to the Allies now have a comparatively small income, most of them declaring their income to be between 10,000 and 20,000 francs a year. Many in this class of taxpayers, being the heads of large families, often escape with light taxation.

The 197 persons with incomes of 1,000,000 or more declared a combined income of 735,000,000 francs (\$55,125,000), of which only about 600,000,000 (\$45,000,000) is taxable. The remainder being exempt either because of large families or because it has been proved that the money was spent for building operations, a law passed immediately after the war granting tax exemptions to persons who undertook building operations or in any way improved their residences or business buildings. Big banks and land owners are given opportunity, but while they thus escaped the tax collector they have not remedied the housing shortage in France, and this has aroused the ire of the workmen, who bitterly complain that while they have to pay high rent for small and sometimes unsanitary dwellings no way has been given them to avoid the tax collector.

NEW IRISH BANK BILL
MADE TO FOIL FORGERS

Special Cable to THE NEW YORK HERALD.
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New York Herald Bureau, Dublin, Dec. 30.

A new type of banknote has been designed for issue by the Bank of Ireland, which, it is claimed, cannot be counterfeited. The secret lies in the selection of certain shades of green and blue which fall to register when photographed, thus rendering the note invisible to the camera. The new notes are available in the denomination of one pound sterling. The central design consists of a large oval bearing the words "Bank of Ireland" in a sunburst effect made up entirely of tiny letters spelling "one pound." The reverse keeps the same coloring, but the design is a star, with a picturesque representation of "Erin," the most ancient name for Ireland, and rays composed of the words, "Bank of Ireland."

Running Locomotives
BY COMPRESSED AIR

Special Cable to THE NEW YORK HERALD.
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New York Herald Bureau, London, Dec. 30.

Great interest has been aroused here by the Italian engineer Tabanelli's discovery of a method of running a locomotive with compressed air. Preliminary demonstrations held this week convinced Government officials that his new departure is practical.

The most important feature is a 60 per cent economy in fuel which recommends the system highly to Italy. The invention is adaptable to the type of locomotive now in use with only minor alterations. Tabanelli's engine requires only a small quantity of crude oil, substituting heated compressed air for steam.

MAY SHOOT PIGEONS
THAT DAMAGE CROPS

Special Cable to THE NEW YORK HERALD.
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New York Herald Bureau, Rome, Dec. 30.

French bird lovers have been greatly perturbed since a recent court decision, holding that the pigeon is a harmful fowl whose destruction is justifiable. Such a ruling was handed down when two Deputies brought the matter to court because crops belonging to one had been damaged by his neighbor's pigeon, which therefore had been killed.

Refusing to consider a demand for damages on the part of the owner, the judge remarked that such a bird was harmful to agriculture and should be destroyed, and exonerated the owner of the crop alleged to have been damaged.

FRENCH JUDGE RULES BIRD'S
DESTRUCTION IS JUSTIFIABLE

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One Legged Couple
Married in London

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New York Herald Bureau, London, Dec. 30.

A COUPLE, each of whom had only one leg, happily hobbled into the Lewisham Registrar's office, where they were married last week. Robert Payne was the bridegroom, who lost his leg at Tientsin in 1917 with the West Kentals. He appeared on crutches. The bride, Miss Alice Smith, who was pretty, wore an artificial leg as the result of an accident when a child. Her infirmity was hardly noticeable.

PARIS RUNS SHORT
OF BURIAL GROUND

Suggestion That Long Term
Concessions Be Reduced
to Fifty Years.

Special Cable to THE NEW YORK HERALD.
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New York Herald Bureau, Paris, Dec. 30.

Paris is faced by a shortage of burial grounds. The prefect of the Department of the Seine has issued a warning in which he says that every cemetery in Paris is filled to capacity and that those outside Paris are filling up so rapidly that steps must be taken immediately to solve the problem.

Attempts have been made to find a new burial ground around the city, but the only likely place is some thirty kilometers away. When a suburb is approached with the suggestion that a cemetery be established in their territory the idea is immediately rejected by the local authorities.

The question has become so important that the Municipal Council has been asked to find a remedy. One suggestion has been to expropriate from funeral directors and monument makers. It was suggested that the present system of granting land concessions for burial purposes for a period of 100 years be shortened to fifty years. The monument makers objected on the ground that they depend on long concessions to earn a living, as only families who have taken out long concessions with the idea of burying all their relatives in one plot order expensive tombs, which they expect to last for many years. If the period is reduced to fifty years, they argued, these families will not think it worth while to erect costly monuments.

It is estimated by the prefecture that more than 60 per cent of the tombs in Paris cemeteries which are more than a hundred years old are in a dilapidated condition.

ROME HOLIDAYS GIVEN
TO RELIEF OF POOR

Royal Family, Mussolini and
Pope All Aid in Charity.

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New York Herald Bureau, Rome, Dec. 30.

The holiday season in Rome, which begins with Christmas, has shown a new conscientious attitude under the Fascist regime. Beginning with the royal family the season has been marked by deeds for the unfortunate in lieu of former exclusive attention to festivities. The Queen Mother and Princess Yolanda, visited the charity bazaar this week and Prince Umberto went to the barracks of the First Grenadiers, of which he is a corporal, to attend a simple Christmas tree ceremony.

Mussolini, who at first threatened to work all day Christmas with his Ministers, compromised by disappearing from the Grand Hotel, where he lives, and was not seen all day. He sent a generous contribution to the Bersaglieri, who had a tree for the poor in their barracks.

Pope Pius XI. made 400 Armenian children happy in sending Cardinal Gasparri to superintend the establishment of a home for them in Castle Gondolfo. Roman aristocracy generally is greatly preoccupied with a series of dinners to the poor and war veterans.

GERMAN WAITERS
CAN'T SWAMP LONDON

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New York Herald Bureau, London, Dec. 30.

German waiters can now return to London, but only those whose services have been greatly missed since 1914. The alien restriction act of 1919, under which special permission from the Secretary of State was required to enable Germans, Austrians and others who fought against Germany to enter England, expires Sunday.

Hundreds of men from Berlin and Vienna have been trying to return, but British officials have been holding them up against the alien order of 1920 by which a visa will not be given unless the applicant produces a permit issued by his employer here by the Ministry of Labor. Permission to come to England to seek work will not be granted under any circumstances. Tourists will be admitted and English women married to Germans will have no difficulty in returning.

THESE articles appear in this section:

- The Kaiser's Abdication and His Flight.
- Our Observer at Lausanne.
- Bishop Lawrence on the Ministry.
- The Troubles of the United States.
- Yellowley and His Hardest Job.
- Ireland Returns to Ancient Culture.
- Giving a Business to the Employees.

LASCELLES RESTORE
FINE OLD MANSION

Princess Mary Adds Eight
Bathrooms to Two Installed
Several Years Ago.

ORDERS NEW FURNITURE

One of Most Modern Nurseries
in England Is Proud Boast
of Goldsbrough Hall.

Special Cable to THE NEW YORK HERALD.
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New York Herald Bureau, London, Dec. 30.

Princess Mary and Viscount Lascelles took up their residence in Goldsbrough Hall this week after the fine Elizabethan mansion near Knaresborough, Yorkshire, had been thoroughly restored. There have been restorations before this, but Princess Mary, who inherits her mother's good housekeeping habits, was not at all satisfied.

Certain of the work she characterized as sheer vandalism, such as cutting off a fine Elizabethan window from one of the principal rooms in order to make a lavatory. Therefore the early nineteenth century plumbing was rooted out, the window was restored, and the room, with its notable Jacobean moulded plaster and frieze, will become the Princess's private sitting room.

The process of restoring has been going on for six months, and the new chateau has given lavish orders not only to London antique dealers but to modern interior decorators, and there will be many parts of the old house which will show the best developments of modern interior design, with bright colors, deep upholstery and beautiful fabrics.

One of the first things the Princess noticed was the lack of corridors. It was necessary to pass through several other bedrooms in order to reach the rooms at the end of each wing. That has now been remedied. The house was supposedly modernized several years ago when two bathrooms were installed. Decorators there was included several in the servants' quarters.

One of the interesting bits of restoration was the building of bedrooms over the old kitchen, which was one of the house's architectural gems. It was successfully accomplished without disturbing the ancient beams. Among the orders given to modern decorators there was included the furniture and appliances for one of the most modern nurseries in England. That is a field in which the Princess has distinguished herself, for during the war she trained as a nurse in a children's hospital and secured a certificate. She still keeps in close touch with the institution. Moreover, it is expected that the new nursery will be occupied before many weeks go by.

EXPERTS GIVE UP IDEA
OF POWER FROM SEINE

May Connect Paris With Hy-
draulic Stations on Rhone.

Special Cable to THE NEW YORK HERALD.
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New York Herald Bureau, Paris, Dec. 30.

All hopes and attempts to utilize the hydraulic energy of the Seine to supply Paris and its environs with electricity are doomed to disappointment, according to a report by experts. The idea, presented many months ago, was thought practical in view of the great difference in the level of the stream between Paris and Rouen, but now it is realized that in many places the water fall is not sufficient to permit the operation of locks without building a number of dams.

The enormous expense which the construction of these dams would entail is considered prohibitive. Attention was directed toward connecting Paris with the Rhone hydraulic stations to be established near Lyons.

THIEVES TAKE JEWELS;
DESPISE PRIZED VIOLIN

Kick Aside Gift of Shah to
Miss Elsie Southgate.

Special Cable to THE NEW YORK HERALD.
Copyright, 1922, by THE NEW YORK HERALD.

New York Herald Bureau, London, Dec. 30.

Burglars who broke into the home of Miss Elsie Southgate, violinist, contemptuously kicked aside her fiddle, for they were seeking jewelry. But they missed a rare prize, as the violin was presented to Miss Southgate by the Shah of Persia and is valued at more than £5,000, and many of them were presented to her by royalty of various countries, including diamond brooches from Indian rajahs.

The police have found no clew as yet several hairpins that belong to nobody in the house, whence they think at least one of the burglars was a woman.

SLOVAKS NOT TO HAVE
SEPARATE AUTONOMY

President Declares Union
With Bohemia Is Necessary.

Special Cable to THE NEW YORK HERALD.
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New York Herald Bureau, Prague, Dec. 30.

The Slovak elements in Czechoslovakia are not to be granted autonomy as a national group, but will be given every privilege of self-government under the democratic constitution. This is what President Masaryk told the delegation which presented a petition for autonomy under the provisions of the Versailles treaty this week.

This statement by President Masaryk ends the demands of the Slovaks which had been growing more and more pressing since the Czechoslovak republic was proclaimed in Pittsburgh May 20, 1918. President Masaryk told the delegation that when he went to Pittsburgh neither war nor political conditions favored a separatist movement, especially for the Slovaks, who are not well known, and therefore a union with the nationals of Bohemia under one government was the only effective way of reaching the desired end. He said he signed an agreement binding the two peoples to the agreement knowing that all the nationals would be able to have the fullest representation through their elected deputies.

ENGLISH CENSOR CUTS PART
FROM 'OLIVER TWIST' FILM

Objects to Lesson in Picking Pockets Which Was Also
Barred in Stage Version of Beerholm
Tree Years Ago.

Special Cable to THE NEW YORK HERALD.
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New York Herald Bureau, London, Dec. 30.

The British Puritan conscience is again under fire for the censor's action in cutting from Jackie Coogan's "Oliver Twist" film the scene where Fagin, Charley Bates and the Artful Dodger teach Oliver the art of picking pockets. Lady Nora Bentinck writes in the Graphic:

"Surely the daily donation to the whole British public of a minute detail of ghastly crimes is far more

worthy the censor's attention than the exclusion of scenes from the common classes. Against the rigid censoring of films whose appeal is frankly sensational I am sure none of our readers would dream of venturing to plead; when the morality of Dickens is challenged—especially in a season when he is so eloquently eulogized—who will not feel the time has come to voice some protest?"

The reason given for the exclusion was that the Lord Chamberlain cut out the scene when Beerholm Tree produced "Oliver Twist" on the stage many years ago.

BRITAIN HAS WOMAN
VETERINARY DOCTOR

Miss Crust Receives Diploma,
but Has Been Practicing
for Ten Years.

Special Cable to THE NEW YORK HERALD.
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New York Herald Bureau, London, Dec. 30.

Miss Aileen Crust is the first woman veterinary surgeon in the United Kingdom. Although she has just received her diploma from the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons she has been practicing for ten years. The president of the college made a special journey to hand her the diploma, and shortly afterwards she announced that she had evolved an entirely new type of dog which she has called a "pocket cocker." They are much like the ordinary cocker spaniels, except much smaller, but they seem to have the same amount of intelligence and sprightliness.

Miss Crust is a daughter of the late Sir Leopold Crust, and a sister of Sir Charles Crust, quarry to the King. During the war she served in a bacteriological laboratory attached to a veterinary hospital in France. Before the war she was veterinary inspector for the Galloway County Council.

"The Irish people are fond of their dogs and horses that are the people of this country," said Miss Crust. During the war she served in a bacteriological laboratory attached to a veterinary hospital in France. Before the war she was veterinary inspector for the Galloway County Council.

NEW PARIS STYLES
IN GOOD LUCK CHARMS

Small Keys Displace China
Elephants and Pigs.

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New York Herald Bureau, Paris, Dec. 30.

New good luck charms are being introduced for a new year. The old charms, superstitious as ever, have lost faith in china elephants and pigs, and the gold brooch bearing the number 13 has failed to please.

The new charm consists of a small key, similar to a safe key. This trinket is now on sale in gold and platinum, and may be worn as a bangle or on a fine gold chain around the neck. The Frenchwoman is wont to consider it the key to happiness, and the jewellers are jubilant because sales are good.

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